Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Virgil Iver Swope and Gladys Bertha Oechsle exchanged their wedding vows on May 29, 1948, promising to share their lives and love together for the rest of their days; and,

Whereas, The newlywed couple of 60 years ago has been replaced by two devoted partners who have shared life's beauty and sorrow, and have grown to love one another more because of their common journey; and,

Whereas, Virgil and Gladys gave life and love to two children, David and Rosetta, who further blessed their lives with four grandchildren and one great-grandchild, and spent the early years of their married life on farms near Redfield, Seneca, and Hitchcock until returning to the family farm in 1958, where they continue to reside; and,

Whereas, Virgil and Gladys will celebrate their 60th Anniversary with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants; and,

Whereas, It is altogether fitting and proper that the Governor of South Dakota recognizes and commemorates the memorable occasions in the lives of the state's outstanding citizens:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 29, 2008, as

VIRGIL AND GLADYS SWOPE DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with the honored couple's family and friends in wishing them continued health and happiness in a state that stands prouder today because of their contributions and commitment.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-seventh Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State